GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4859
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
CHANGING OF CROPPING PATTER
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to change the cropping pattern in view of the crash in the price of several agriculture products;

(b) if so, the methods proposed to be adopted by the Government to change the cropping pattern;

(c) whether the Government intend to encourage the production of special Basmati rice for export; and

(d) if so, the crops proposed to be encouraged in place of wheat and rice?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y.NAIK)

(a)&(b): Adoption of fixed cropping system may lead to decline in factor productivity and associated problems, hence, changes in Cropping Patterns are suggested according to land use capability and availability of resource/inputs. However, cost of production/economic return is governing factor for adoption of cropping pattern by farmers.

(c): For encouraging Basmati rice cultivation, Rice seed minikits, Front linedemonstrations and Specialized training Programmes are being organized under Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(d): The alternate crops for Wheat and Rice include Potato, Sugarcane, Sunflower,Soyabean, Maize, Mustard, Pulses, Vegetables, Fodder crops and several other promising horticultural crops. The cropping systems based on the inclusion of these crops have generally been found to be economically remunerative and sustainable on the long-term basis.